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SENSITIVE, SIPDIS

FOR POLICY PLANNING STAFF - GREG BEHRMAN

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XF, XI, ZP, ZR, QA

SUBJECT: EMBASSY DOHA'S FOLLOW-UP TO THE PRESIDENT'S CAIRO SPEECH

REF: (A) SECSTATE 71325

(B) 2008 DOHA 664

(C) DOHA 205

(D) DOHA 268

(E) DOHA 446

(F) DOHA 130

(G) DOHA 159

(H) DOHA 413

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KEY POINTS  
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-- Ambassador and Embassy officers followed up the President's speech with a variety of engagements to hear feedback directly from Qataris.

-- Qatar is already a progressive force in the three priority areas listed Ref A. Enhanced U.S. engagement efforts should focus on specific gaps in Qatar's human development such as English language education and opportunities for women and girls.

-- Qatar could be a valuable regional partner and force-multiplier in furthering human development, entrepreneurship and interfaith partnership, and science and technology throughout the Muslim world. USG engagement of Qatar would most usefully be focused on creating a partnership to advance our shared region-wide goals.

-- However, many of these goals will not be achievable without more attention and resources given to visa issuance, particularly eliminating the long wait times for security clearances.

-- Embassy Doha's new linguistic capabilities could help the U.S. policy community advance its strategic communication goals in the region.

END KEY POINTS.

11. OVERVIEW: This cable is structured to provide Embassy Doha's assessment - based on consultations with key stakeholders - of the best ways to engage on the three priority areas listed in the President's speech and in Ref A. After describing how we sought feedback to the speech, we call for building a partnership with Qatar to promote regional development and underscore the importance of solving the visa clearance backlog. We then outline priorities and opportunities for USG engagement of Qatar in the three priority areas of human development, entrepreneurship and interfaith partnership, and science and technology. We conclude with some thoughts about how to integrate Embassy Doha's new linguistic capabilities with the USG's broader efforts toward Muslim engagement.

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METHODS OF CONSULTATION AND FEEDBACK  
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12. Since the President's Cairo speech on June 4, Embassy undertook

several efforts to enhance dialogue with the Muslim community in Qatar and to solicit input from Qataris on how best to follow up on the President's words with actions on the ground.

-- On the afternoon of the President's speech, Embassy held a public viewing and discussion in conjunction with the Brookings Doha Center. After brief remarks drawn from the speech's key points, the Ambassador answered questions and took comments from over 50 audience members.

-- The Ambassador has hosted a series of events at his residence with local educational leaders and exchange program participants. These interactions have provided valuable feedback on the state of educational institutions and human development in Qatar. Media coverage of the events emphasized the U.S. desire to hear Qatari voices.

-- The Ambassador has begun meeting with local religious leaders to gauge their reactions to the speech and develop a greater understanding of their priorities.

-- The Ambassador made a series of visits to tribal elders at Doha's main souq (market). These individuals helped provide a broader historical perspective of Qatar's development, its culture, and opportunities for U.S. engagement.

-- Embaffs canvassed their contacts for reactions to the speech. Contacts generally responded positively, noting they were looking forward to the programs/actions which would flow from the rhetoric.

13. (SBU) The above activities supplement the regular efforts by Embassy's Country Team to engage with Qatari society. Embassy Doha holds regular (twice a year) interagency off-sites to integrate the

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collective outreach efforts of the interagency in the field, to analyze key trends in Qatar, and to assess the U.S. policy implications. (Note: See Refs B and C for full descriptions of these off-sites' conclusions.) These forums enhance our strategic planning, and they serve as an internal sounding board for evaluating the input we receive from a diverse set of partners in Qatari government and society. Moreover, Embassy is establishing several "interagency synchronization" groups to address key issues in Qatar; this model could easily be applied by Embassy's Country Team to implement long-term U.S. engagement with Qatar in the field, consistent with the potential activities and programs listed Ref A.

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PARTNERSHIP BEYOND QATAR'S BORDERS  
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14. Qatar's development vision extends far beyond its own borders, and Qatar is a progressive force in the Arab region, at least in the three priority areas highlighted by the President.

-- For example, to advance human development efforts in the education field, Qatar's Reach Out to Asia (ROTA) charity provides assistance across the Muslim world; it is a good example of a Qatari organization we should approach in partnership as we implement the President's initiative. ROTA currently has a partnership with U.S. NGO Mercy Corps and is working on educational initiatives in such high-priority areas as Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Northern Iraq.

-- Qatar is carving out a leadership role in both entrepreneurship and interfaith activities. Silatech, a new organization, is promoting youth employment across the 22 Arab countries, with an initial focus on Qatar, Morocco, Syria, Yemen, Tunisia, and Bahrain. The GOQ recently founded an interfaith center and holds regular conferences with leaders from the three monotheistic traditions.

-- On science and technology, Qatar's Education City, with branch campuses of 6 U.S. universities and students from around the region, and a Science and Technology Park with 22 tenants so far, including major U.S. firms, has the potential to become a regional scientific "center of excellence."

¶5. Beyond supporting Qatar's domestic efforts (see sections below), the USG could most usefully focus its Qatar-specific efforts on partnering with Qatar in other parts of the Muslim world. Thanks to enormous wealth dependent on its large natural gas reserves -- the world's third largest -- Qatar seeks to play a significant regional role greater than its geographic or demographic size would suggest, but partnership is the key to unlocking the money for use in USG initiatives.

-- Embassy's records indicate we have approached Qatar at least 22 times in the past year to ask for money, for everything from reconstruction of Georgia to a clean technology fund to support for the Somali army. Qatar generally does not respond to these requests because they are not done as part of a coordinated policy process. Likewise, feedback from our interlocutors suggests that Qatar will only respond to donation requests when they are packaged as part of senior-level consultations. For example, the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs recommended bilateral coordination of specific development aid projects (Ref D).

-- Our current "tin cup" approach of repeated requests for financial contributions to various causes has proven ineffective because they are not done in the spirit of a true partnership. Qatar does not want to just write a check - it wants to be involved in the formulation and implementation of programs. Thus, the USG should tailor its requests to specific development projects in which Qatar can play a prominent role and present these requests as part of an ongoing political consultative process.

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FIXING VISA SYSTEM THE LYNCHPIN  
TO ALL OTHER EFFORTS  
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¶6. Before providing Embassy's assessment of the key subject areas for engagement, we note that much of our current and future success hinges on the USG's ability to provide visas to legitimate travelers in a timely manner. The lengthy and opaque visa process is the most common complaint from Qatari citizens who are otherwise favorably inclined toward the U.S.

-- Many opportunities have been lost when the clearance process is too slow to clear legitimate travelers going to the U.S. for exchanges, study, business, or other travel. This hampers our efforts to build bridges.

-- More resources are necessary at the interagency level in Washington to review the usefulness of CLASS hits with common names

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but no other identifying criteria and clear expeditiously Security Advisory Opinions.

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HUMAN DEVELOPMENT  
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¶7. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - QATARI PRIORITIES: Qatar's stunning economic progress depends primarily on the exploitation of its oil and gas resources. However, the GOQ is aware that the country's hydrocarbon resources will eventually run out and is working towards diversifying its economy and enhancing education as the foundation for the future generation.

-- The Government of Qatar announced earlier this year "Qatar Vision 2030," which is intended to guide creation of a comprehensive action plan to further Qatar's development efforts. The vision's four pillars are Economic, Social, Human, and Environmental Development. (Note: The full document is available online at Qatar's General Secretariat for Development Planning website: [www.gsdp.gov.qa](http://www.gsdp.gov.qa)).

-- The Economic Development priorities described in the vision include delivering prosperity while mitigating the effects of economic imbalances; strengthening the private sector; balancing hydrocarbon reserves and production to ensure benefits are available

for the next generation; and balancing economic development and protection of the environment.

-- One of the most notable aspects of this vision is the strong encouragement of both male and female Qataris from various levels of the public and private sectors to speak their minds and collaborate on fleshing out strategies during conferences and working group sessions. This process will result in publication of a National Development Plan for 2010-2015.

¶8. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENGAGEMENT: While Qatar is working hard to develop and implement its vision, Qatar is acutely aware of its own need for capacity-building and assistance at all levels.

-- For example, the GOQ recognizes its dependence on food imports and would like to develop a domestic agricultural and regulatory industry (Ref E). Embassy is helping Qatar's Task Force on Food Security establish connections with USDA and other agencies which could provide advice, capacity-building, and other assistance. Such efforts are welcome as they support Qatar's self-identified priorities. Enabling more exchanges and assistance programs, as envisioned in the President's speech, would help support Qatar's economic development and diversification efforts.

¶9. EDUCATION - QATARI PRIORITIES: Qatar aims to build a modern world-class educational system that prepares Qatari students for success in a globalized, knowledge-based economy. Qatar's approach to education reform is unique in the world, because it is not only seeking to modernize its educational system on an American model but through a series of partnerships is actually importing high-quality U.S. institutions to help them achieve that goal.

-- (SBU) Independent Schools. The GOQ has formed 186 schools which operate similar to U.S. charter schools by allowing local control of the curriculum. The RAND Corporation, which has closely advised the GOQ and has one of its two overseas branch offices in Doha, tells us that Qatar is undertaking the most ambitious educational reform project it has seen anywhere in the world. However, the GOQ's bold reforms have received negative feedback from the public due to a widespread belief that the independent schools sap resources from the standard public schools, that they provide few academic improvements over the public school system, and that their English language focus will contribute to the erosion of the Arabic language and Qatari culture.

-- Qatar Foundation (QF). The QF is the primary vehicle for the GOQ's massive investments in education, science and technology, and related social programs. QF and a constellation of affiliated organizations and initiatives are run by Shaykha Mozah and other royal family members. (More information is available at: [www.qf.edu.qa](http://www.qf.edu.qa)).

-- Education City. QF's flagship project is a 2,500-acre campus in Doha which hosts branch campuses of six U.S. universities, each focused on a particular academic specialty.

¶10. Despite the extensive resources at their doorstep, many high school graduates still see higher education as inaccessible and reserved for the elite. Many Qataris view the problem as stemming from Qatar's efforts to "Americanize" or "internationalize" its college education system in the past two years and quick implementation of a bilingual English and Arabic curriculum.

¶11. EDUCATION - OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENGAGEMENT: Successful engagement

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with Qatar calls for showing respect for its leaders' vision for education and creating partnerships to address areas of joint interest. The U.S. private sector is already the leading partner in Qatar's efforts, and expanded USG involvement should be tailored to complement this successful partnership.

-- While it has quickly built an impressive higher-education capability, as noted, K-12 educational preparation lags behind and not all Qataris will have the talent or desire to study at Education

City's elite universities. The USG may be able to help by devoting resources to boosting Qatar's K-12 reform efforts and helping Qatar import community colleges.

-- Qatar has a critical need for quality textbooks and learning resources. For example, the head of the Independent School Committee recently told us that Qatar needs 180,000 new, quality books in science and math for its preparatory schools. The U.S. Foreign Commercial Service and its affiliated domestic offices could liaise with U.S. book publishers to partner them with Qatari buyers.

-- Embassy already has multiple programs to support English language instruction in Qatar. Scaling up resources for such efforts, however, would be well received in Qatar and help meet a pressing need.

-- To highlight Qatar's educational achievements and the key U.S. role, Embassy would also suggest revisiting the idea of a Congressional field hearing at Education City, a concept supported by Shaykha Mozah (see Ref G).

-- Beyond Qatar, the Qatar Foundation recently opened a Washington office to work on implementing educational projects across cultures. The organization receives its funding from the Qatar Foundation but is technically a separately registered 501 (c)(3) organization with its own U.S.-majority board. The Executive Director of QF-U.S. is a former FSO and is eager to engage the USG on collaborative projects.

¶12. WOMEN AND GIRLS - QATARI PRIORITIES: Qatar, despite its outwardly modern appearance, remains a tribal society with conservative Islamic mores. However, Qatar's leadership has endorsed education of its female citizens at all levels including higher education. Qatari females not only attend universities and colleges but also consistently outperform their male counterparts. Female students comprise 60% of the student population of Qatar University and most Education City schools have similar ratios.

-- Qatar's National Vision 2030 calls for ensuring women's participation in all parts of life and enhancing their abilities.

-- At the same time, most Qatari families place travel restrictions on young females (they are not allowed to travel without a 'mahram' or male chaperone), making it difficult for them to study abroad or participate in exchange programs.

¶13. WOMEN AND GIRLS - OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENGAGEMENT: By all accounts, Qatari female students are intelligent, hard-working, and dedicated to achievement. To get around the travel requirements, the USG should make allowances for chaperone travel with exchanges (by both permitting such accompaniment and reducing the length of some programs) and scale-up successful outreach efforts within Qatar.

-- For example, Embassy is sponsoring five Qatari girls this month on an intensive English study and cultural visit to the U.S. Embassy worked closely with the Doha Youth Center to design a program that would satisfy the 'Mahram' requirements by sending two Qatari chaperones with the girls.

-- Embassy recently sent its first Qatari female Fulbright scholar to the U.S. Finding Qatari women to participate in the Fulbright program has been difficult, and we believe programs shorter than the typical one-year requirement would be more successful in attracting Qatari females.

-- Expansion of the well-received 3-week International Visitor Leadership Programs would allow us to expand our exchange opportunities with a program length that is more acceptable to many Qataris.

¶14. While Qatari male youth benefit immensely from GOQ youth sports programs, GOQ does not make similar resources and opportunities available to girls.

-- Embassy is striving to change these practices by example through programming for Qatari females. For example, two NBA/WNBA envoys



recently ran a clinic for the Qatari Girls National Basketball team. The event was the first of its kind and received considerable media coverage. Scaling up these efforts in Qatar would be a low-cost way

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to reach Qatari females without the problematic travel restrictions mentioned above.

¶15. YOUTH - QATARI PRIORITIES: Qatar has undertaken several large initiatives to ramp up programs targeting youth.

-- For example, the GOQ launched a health and sports campaign to target youth obesity. Prompted by hosting the Asian Games of 2006, Qatar enhanced its sports facilities, and every Qatari male now has free access to joining any one of the 16 Qatari sports clubs and participating in a range of sports including soccer, swimming, and martial arts.

¶16. Qatar has undertaken regional initiatives as well.

-- For example, the Qatar Olympic Committee (QOC) sponsors a regional office of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). In 2005, these two organizations established the Global Sport Fund which provides grants to NGOs in the region for projects that use sport to prevent drug use and criminal behavior among young people. The GSF also sponsors events, youth camps, and exhibitions, and holds training seminars for coaches and youth.

¶17. YOUTH - OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUTURE ENGAGEMENT: Qatar's desire for youth-centered cultural and athletic programs opens the door for increased public diplomacy activities which promote a positive image of the U.S. in Qatar.

-- For example, Embassy has capitalized on the presence of over 10,000 U.S. service members in Qatar to organize face-to-face activities between U.S. service members and Qatari youth, such as joint basketball and ice-skating programs. One of our most successful efforts involved bringing a visiting U.S. Air Force band to local schools to play American contemporary music for special needs children and other Qatari students.

-- The USG should also consider a contribution or partnership with the Global Sports Fund described above.

¶18. HEALTH - QATARI PRIORITIES: Enhancing the country's health systems and overall health of the population is one of the GOQ's top priorities.

-- Qatar has formed a partnership with Weill Cornell Medical School which has established a satellite campus in Education City. Qatar hopes that Weill Cornell will serve as a feeder school for medical professionals in its health care system.

-- Qatar is constructing an \$8 Billion, 250 bed research and teaching hospital ("Sidra") and is investing in new technology for existing hospitals. However, Qatar has struggled to match these facilities with a qualified medical workforce competent in using the latest technologies.

-- Hamad Hospital is currently partnering with the University of Pittsburgh Medical Group to improve its emergency services.

-- The March 2008 Fulbright Academy Conference on Nursing and Healthcare was held at the Qatar Foundation with participation from many U.S. medical experts.

¶19. HEALTH - OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENGAGEMENT: Several discrete health areas would be ripe for further engagement.

-- Despite the impressive investments in infrastructure detailed above, medical management skills are lacking in Qatar.

-- Embassy is working closely with the Qatar National Cancer Society to raise breast cancer awareness in Qatar, which is viewed as a taboo in Qatari society. Embassy organized several speaking engagements for the Ambassador's wife which received extensive press

coverage. Qatari males (who are in large part responsible for generating the stigma surrounding breast cancer in Qatari culture) reacted positively to the campaigns while gaining a new perspective on breast cancer. Expanding MEPI's Breast Cancer Awareness program to Qatar could build on these successful initial efforts.

-- Embassy works closely with several local centers for individuals with special needs by providing speakers and gifts, and sponsoring interactive events for children. Considering the significant proportion of special needs individuals in Qatari society, future USG outreach programs should be designed with this need in mind.

¶20. ENVIRONMENT - QATARI PRIORITIES: Environmental Management is a key concern of the Qatari leadership and also a growing concern for multiple stakeholders in Qatar. As the USG considers programs related to human development, it should consider Qatar as a potential partner on matters of environmental protection.

-- Qatar Vision 2030's environmental development priorities are:

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striking a balance between economic development and environmental protection, improving the legal framework, encouraging the emergence of an environmentally-aware population, and designing a sustainable urban development strategy.

-- Qatar has recently hosted several notable environmental conferences, from the November 2008 Montreal Protocol conference to a regional MEPI-supported workshop on hazardous waste management.

¶21. Qatari leaders are also eager to invest in initiatives which will enhance technology transfer to Qatar and support its development goals in an environmentally-sustainable manner.

-- One example of the sort of partnership Qatar prefers is a joint British Pound 250 million fund established between the Qatar Investment Authority (Qatar's sovereign wealth fund) and the UK-based Carbon Trust. The QIA contributed 150 million and the fund intends to invest in clean energy technology and technology transfer to Qatar. The fund is the result of high-level political engagement between the British and Qatari Prime Ministers, and the agreement was signed during Gordon Brown's November 2008 visit to Doha.

¶22. ENVIRONMENT - OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUTURE ENGAGEMENT: USG efforts should focus on supporting Qatar's current environmental management initiatives.

-- Significantly, the GOQ established last year a new Environment Ministry with wide authority. Embassy is working with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on a proposal (via the State Department Science Fellows program) to place a senior advisor at the Ministry for several months next year. However, funds are scarce and greater investment in this program would make it much more effective.

-- The rapid pace of development in Doha has raised the concern of many in the government and construction industry over the environmental sustainability of new buildings, and several stakeholders recently formed a Green Building Council. U.S. advice, expertise, and technology could be crucial in helping Qatar's development proceed in an eco-friendly and technologically-advanced manner.

¶23. RULE OF LAW - QATARI PRIORITIES: The significant swell of expatriates and Qatar's growing role as a transport hub has increased its vulnerability to crime and extremist violence. Modernization has also brought with it scourges like drug abuse and financial crime.

-- Qatar's National Vision 2030 calls for establishing the rule of law in Qatar by regularizing judicial procedures and harmonizing Qatar's legal code with international norms. Moreover, Qatar adopted a constitution in 2003 for the first time.

¶24. RULE OF LAW - OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENGAGEMENT: The USG has many resources for legal advice at its disposal and should build on

successful assistance provided to Qatar in recent years.

-- For example, the Qatari Attorney General would like to expand FBI training of Qatari prosecutors. In the last three years, Embassy arranged two-week training programs for two groups of Qatari prosecutors in the U.S. and sent five U.S. prosecutors to a similar program in Qatar.

-- Embassy has hosted several visits by the Department of Commerce's MEPI-supported Commercial Law Development Program in recent years. These expert advisors contributed to training programs and new procedures at the Qatari Ministry of Justice and Qatar University Law School. While such short-term interventions are useful, long-term secondments or advisory roles could be even more effective and are worth evaluating as a scalable opportunity in the region.

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ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INTERFAITH PARTNERSHIP  
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125. ENTREPRENEURSHIP - QATARI PRIORITIES: Encouraging entrepreneurship is a priority shared by the GOQ. The leadership's vision extends not only to their small country, however, but across the Arab world.

-- In 2008, the Amir's consort Shaykha Mozah founded "Silatech" ("Your Connection" in Arabic) to promote youth employment across the 22 countries of the Arab region. The organization has held two large conferences in Doha and is now working on pilot programs in six countries (Qatar, Morocco, Syria, Yemen, Tunisia, and Bahrain). For now, Silatech is focused on three areas: improving access to skills training and placement services, the promotion of policies to stimulate increased employment and enterprise opportunities, and changing the "mindset" in the region to improve society's recognition and support for youth employment.

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-- Silatech recently signed a number of agreements with other organizations working on youth employment issues in the Arab world, including the Brookings Institution, Dubai School of Government, Manpower, and Pearson Education, among others. (More information can be found at [www.silatech.com](http://www.silatech.com)). As follow up to Ref G, which recommended USG engagement with Silatech, Embassy recently connected the organization's representatives with both MEPI and the Small Business Administration to discuss potential areas for partnership.

-- The Ministry of Business and Trade recently established a \$550 million fund to build an institution dedicated to diversifying the Qatari economy (particularly encouraging SMEs) and promoting a more entrepreneurial business culture. Embassy has established connections between the Financial Services Volunteer Corps (FSVC) and Qatar's Ministry of Business and Trade and other GOQ entities working on SME development and other efforts to expand the Qatari private sector.

126. ENTREPRENEURSHIP - OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENGAGEMENT: Embassy believes creating partnerships to promote entrepreneurship with both Silatech and the Ministry of Business and Trade offers the best chance of programmatic success in the near term. These organizations could help to implement a new business volunteer corps and their senior representatives should be invited to the President's summit on entrepreneurship. Also, FSVC's successful training programs in the region should be linked to new ideas such as the Business Volunteer Corps.

127. Separately, Embassy will launch this fall an American Chamber of Commerce in Qatar which will create a ready platform for business opportunities and development of Qatar's private sector.

-- Membership in the AmCham is open to local companies, and there will be great potential for technology transfer, joint business opportunities, and better cultural understanding.

-- Several U.S. companies offer long-term internships in the U.S. to Qatari students, efforts which could be expanded by partnering USG



resources with the AmCham and its constituent companies in Qatar.

¶28. INTERFAITH PARTNERSHIP - QATARI PRIORITIES: The GOQ hosts two major conferences each year which incorporate interfaith dialogue and partnership: the Brookings-organized U.S.-Islamic World Forum (which has an interfaith sub-group) and an Interfaith Dialogue conference. Both conferences attract high level visitors from around the world.

-- In mid-2008, Qatar established the Interfaith Dialogue Center to build a cohesive effort among monotheistic faiths to tackle common issues in the Middle East.

¶29. INTERFAITH PARTNERSHIP - OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENGAGEMENT: Embassy has attained significant public diplomacy success by harnessing the visits of both USG and private representatives at these conferences. For example, Congressional Representatives and American Imams have been prominent participants in these conferences, garnering significant media coverage. Embassy also took advantage of the events to bring the visitors to local schools for speaking opportunities.

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
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¶30. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY - QATARI PRIORITIES: Ref H provides a detailed Scen setter on Science and Technology issues in Qatar. In writing that cable, Embassy surveyed S&T stakeholders in Qatar specifically in response to the President's Cairo speech. Qatar is using its current hydrocarbon-fueled wealth to invest in educational reform (as described earlier) and this vision extends to science and technology. The Qatar Foundation is the primary vehicle for these initiatives.

-- The Qatar Science and Technology Park (QSTP) is another of QF's major entities and formally opened in March 2009. The park has 22 high-profile tenants, including major U.S. firms such as ExxonMobil, ConocoPhillips, GE, and Microsoft. QSTP is intended to foster industry-university collaboration at Qatar's Education City and is focused on promoting research, commercialization, and technology/knowledge-transfer to Qatar from these firms in four areas: energy, environment, health care, and information/communication technology. (More information is available at: [www.qstp.org.qa](http://www.qstp.org.qa))

-- The Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF) provides millions in funding to original research in natural sciences, engineering and technology, medical and health sciences, agricultural services, social sciences and humanities. USD 45 million was made available for awards in 2008. During the 2007-2008 cycle, 47 collaborative

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research applications were approved involving 33 international institutions.

¶31. Qatar does not generally need USG money. The state provides full educational funding for all of its citizens and has obligated itself to providing 2.8 percent of its GDP to research. (Note: This would comprise just under USD 3 billion in 2008, though the mechanics of how this money will be spent remain unclear to us.)

-- Qatari leaders have expressed their need, however, for help in addressing systemic weaknesses in human capacity. While almost 2 million people live in Qatar, a mere 225,000 are Qatari nationals. There is little indigenous scientific capacity (i.e., there are few Qatari scientists to engage).

¶32. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY - OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENGAGEMENT: Given its significant domestic investments, Qatar could be most valuable to USG efforts as a regional partner in furthering S&T in the Muslim world. Specific partnerships determined through political engagement are most likely to garner Qatari interest, participation, and funding.

-- Enhanced USG engagement on S&T would be welcomed by Qatar and

boost two of the strongest parts of our bilateral relationship: the commercial and educational pillars.

-- Qatar has significant hotel, conference, and exhibition capacity and would be a logical leader to host large conferences or summits.

¶33. Qatar's successful efforts to engage - even import - the U.S. educational model and U.S. private sector expertise indicate the USG would be pushing on an open door by further pursuing such engagement. Education City has all the makings of a scientific "center of excellence" as called for in the White House initiatives.

However, if the USG were to approach QF or Education City under any new initiative, we would need to think through exactly what "value-added" could be provided by the USG.

-- At a minimum, the novel experiment of importing U.S. higher education at QF's Education City calls for rethinking the current framework and restrictions on USG funding, such as through the National Science Foundation (NSF). A recent visit to Qatar by a senior NSF official revealed a strong interest at Education City in applying for USG funding. However, the current funding system may not be positioned to accommodate collaborative research projects abroad, even those involving U.S. institutions and researchers.

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SYNCHRONIZING LINGUISTIC CAPABILITIES  
WITH OUTREACH EFFORTS  
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¶34. U.S. Embassy Doha is a key stakeholder in the Integrated Linguistic Activity-Doha (ILiAD), the USG's premier Middle East regional center for linguistic expertise, providing intelligence derived from collected foreign materials and publicly available information, and delivering accurate translation services for national and operational customers. The ILiAD is a confederation of three USG agencies:

- DIA Combined Media Processing Center-Qatar (CMPC-Q)
- DNI Open Source Center-Doha (OSC-D)
- FBI National Virtual Translation Center-Qatar (NVTC-Q)

¶35. As U.S. missions gear up to support the President's initiatives to constructively engage with Muslim communities, the ILiAD can be a significant resource for the U.S. policy community by helping to produce timely and accurate strategic communications. Not only could the ILiAD provide high quality translation support -- both from English to target languages and from target languages to English -- but it also will play a prominent role in monitoring local and regional media reactions to the consultative process launched by U.S. Missions in the region.

-- The ILiAD provides extensive news monitoring throughout the Gulf and Yemen. At present the Open Source Center component monitors over 50 regional newspapers -- 8 in Qatar, 6 in Bahrain, 9 in Kuwait, 8 in UAE, 3 in Oman, and 19 in Yemen. This coverage will expand further through FY10 -- extending to Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran, and the Horn of Africa -- as the ILiAD continues to add and train additional Arabic, Urdu, Pashtu, and Farsi linguists.

-- The ILiAD also monitors selected satellite TV broadcasts in Iraq and Yemen.

-- In addition to traditional TV channels and newspapers, ILiAD/OSC monitors daily over 75 key violent extremist Sunni and Shia websites to identify claims of responsibility for attacks, ideological statements, and reactions to international initiatives

¶36. U.S. efforts to engage in Strategic Communication throughout the

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Middle East region first requires a thorough understanding of the information outlets, their biases, their sponsors, and other background information.

-- The ILiAD, in concert with other ODNI Open Source Center bureaus in London, Tel Aviv, and Amman, are meeting in August to develop a region-wide Concept of Operations for this media outlet

characterization effort.

-- President Obama's specific initiatives, as defined in Ref A, provides an obvious, shared interagency framework to guide the strategic communications CONOPS for collection and production across the Terrorism Near East Program.

¶37. The U.S. Central Command (US CENTCOM) is expanding its selection of "tools" designed to improve communication and engagement with Muslims throughout the Middle East and South Asia. This is part of their ongoing effort to shift from kinetic confrontation to cultural engagement intended to win over the hearts and minds of the people in this region. Referred to collectively as "human terrain analysis," these tools have the potential to reduce cultural barriers.

-- The ILiAD has developed resources to support U.S. CENTCOM efforts, such as tribal databases in Iraq and Afghanistan that assist USG entities in partnering with the local population.

LEBARON